



DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

Coast Guard

[Docket No. USCG-2011-0138]

Merchant Mariner Medical Advisory Committee

**AGENCY:** Coast Guard, DHS

**ACTION:** Notice of Federal Advisory Committee Meeting.

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**SUMMARY:** The Merchant Mariner Medical Advisory Committee (MMMAC) will meet on May 8-9, 2012 to discuss matters relating to medical certification determinations for issuance of merchant mariner credentials, medical standards and guidelines for physical qualifications of operators of commercial vessels, medical examiner education, and medical research. The meeting will be open to the public.

**DATES:** MMMAC will meet on Tuesday, May 8, and Wednesday, May 9, 2012 from 8:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Please note that the meeting may close early if the committee has completed its business.

**ADDRESSES:** The meeting will be held at the National Maritime Center (NMC), 3<sup>rd</sup> floor conference room, 100 Forbes Drive, Martinsburg, West Virginia 25404.

Please be advised that in order to gain admittance to the NMC building, you must provide identification in the form of a government-issued picture identification card. If you plan to attend, please notify the individual listed in "For Further

Information Contact", no later than April 20, 2012 so that administrative access into the NMC building can be processed prior to arrival.

For information on facilities or services for individuals with disabilities or to request special assistance at the meeting, contact LT Dylan McCall, the ADFO, 202-372-1128 as soon as possible.

To facilitate public participation, we are inviting public comment on the issues to be considered by the committee as listed in the "Agenda" section below. Comments must be submitted in writing to the Coast Guard on or before April 20, 2012 and must be identified by USCG-2011-0138 and may be submitted by one of the following methods:

- **Federal eRulemaking Portal:** <http://www.regulations.gov>.  
**Follow the instructions for submitting comments** (preferred method to avoid delays in processing).
- **Fax:** 202-372-1246.
- **Mail:** Docket Management Facility (M-30), U.S. Department of Transportation, West Building Ground Floor, Room W12-140, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE. Washington, D.C. 20590-0001.
- **Hand delivery:** Same as mail address above, between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal Holidays.  
The telephone number is 202-366-9329.

Instructions: All submissions received must include the words "Department of Homeland Security" and the docket number for this

action. Comments received will be posted without alteration at <http://www.regulations.gov>, including any personal information provided. You may review a Privacy Act notice regarding our public dockets in the January 17, 2008, issue of the Federal Register (73 FR 3316). If you would like a copy of your material distributed to each member of the committee in advance of the meeting, please submit 15 copies to the ADFO no later than April 20, 2012.

**Docket:** For access to the docket to read background documents or comments related to this notice, go to <http://www.regulations.gov>.

A public comment period will be held on May 8, 2012, from 9:20 a.m. to 9:30 a.m., and May 9, 2012 from 5:00 p.m. to 5:10 p.m. Speakers are requested to limit their comments to 3 minutes. Please note that the public comment period may end before the time indicated, following the last call for comments. Additionally, public comment will be sought throughout the meeting as specific tasks and issues are discussed by the committee. Contact the individual listed below to register as a speaker.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Lieutenant Dylan McCall, the MMMAC ADFO, at telephone 202-372-1128 or email

[Dylan.k.mccall@uscg.mil](mailto:Dylan.k.mccall@uscg.mil). If you have questions on viewing or submitting material to the docket, call Renee V. Wright, Program Manager, Docket Operations, telephone 202-366-9826.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Notice of this meeting is given under the *Federal Advisory Committee Act*, 5 U.S.C. App. (Pub. L. 92-463). The MMMAC is authorized by section 210 of the *Coast Guard*

*Authorization Act of 2010* (Public Law 111-281) and the committee's purpose is to advise the Secretary on matters related to medical certification determinations for issuance of merchant mariner credentials; medical standards and guidelines for the physical qualifications of operators of commercial vessels; medical examiner education; and medical research.

**Agenda:**

Day 1

- (1) Opening comments by Designated Federal Officer (DFO), Captain E. P. Christensen.
- (2) Remarks from National Maritime Center Leadership.
- (3) Introduction and swearing in of the new members.
- (4) Designation of the Chair and Vice-Chair.
- (5) Review of Last Meeting's Minutes.
- (6) Public Comments.
- (7) Working Groups addressing the following task statements may meet to deliberate -
  - (a) Task Statement 1, Revising Navigation and Vessel Inspection Circular (NVIC) 04-08. The NVIC can be found at <http://www.uscg.mil/hq/cg5/nvic/> Medical and Physical Guidelines for Merchant Mariner Credentials.
  - (b) Task Statement 2, top medical conditions leading to denial of mariner credentials.
  - (c) Task Statement 4, Revising the CG-719K Medical

Evaluation Report Form for mariner physicals. The form can be found at <http://www.uscg.mil/nmc>

- (d) Task Statement 5, Creating medical expert panels for the top medical conditions.
- (e) Task Statement 6, Developing designated medical examiner program.

Day 2

- (1) Working Group Discussions continued from Day 1.
- (2) By mid-afternoon, the Working Groups will report, and if applicable, make recommendations for the full committee to consider for presentation to the Coast Guard. Official action on these recommendations may be taken on this date. The public will have an opportunity to speak during the Working Groups Report.
- (3) General public comments/presentations.
- (4) Closing remarks/plans for next meeting.

Dated: April 2, 2012

P. F. Thomas,  
Captain, U.S. Coast Guard,  
Acting Director of Prevention Policy.

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